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*Janice E. Favreau* 12/6/04  
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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In the Application of: )  
Richard P. Lamothe ) Examiner: Kenneth E. Peterson  
for: APPARATUS FOR SLITTING, ) Group Art Unit: 3724  
MERGING AND CUTTING A ) Confirmation No.: 2177  
CONTINUOUS PAPER WEB )  
Serial No.: 10/087,559 )  
Filed: March 1, 2002 ) (Our Docket No.: 4341-0032-1)

Hartford, Connecticut - December 6, 2004

MAIL STOP AMENDMENT  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**RESPONSE**

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated September 13, 2004, the Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of this case in light of the following.

**Amendments to the claims begin on page 2.**

**Remarks begin on page 5.**